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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

Public Affairs
USCG District 11
Alameda, Calif.,

Cosco Busan Oil Spill Update--Environmental Alert

District 11 Public Affairs
U.S. Coast Guard



Press Release

Date: Nov. 9, 2007

Contact: Unified Command
Joint Information Center
(510) 772-8865

ENVIRONMENTAL ALERT

SAN FRANCISCO -- The Department of Fish and Game's Office of Spill Prevention and Response, part of the Unified Command, has put out the following alert:

WILDLIFE PARAMETERS AIR OPERATIONS

The operation of low altitude aircraft is disruptive to the normal behavior of wild life. It can impact wildlife in a number of ways.

- Noise generated from the aircrafts will scare birds and mammals off of

nesting, roosting, and haulout area and could result in animals entering oiled habitat/waters.

- A single exposure may cause an animal to abandon those areas that are normally utilized for nesting, roosting, loafing, and haulout area.
- Aircraft alter normal behavior and disrupt feeding, resting, and care of young.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

HELICOPTERS

- Helicopters should operate at an altitude no lower than 2000 ft. of offshore rocks inhabited by birds or marine mammals.
- Helicopters should operate no closer than 1/4 mile of the Farallon Islands.

Fixed-winged Aircraft

- Fixed-winged aircraft should operate at an altitude no lower than 1000 ft. of offshore rocks inhabited by birds or marine mammals.
- Fixed-winged aircraft should operate no closer than 1/4 mile of the Farallon Islands.

Exceptions

- Trustees (DFG, State Parks, GFNMS, NPS, NMFS, USFWS) may allow closer inspection only with a trustee representative on-board the aircraft.

Emergencies

- Appropriate actions must be taken for the direct health and safety.

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U.S. Coast Guard- More than one million lives saved since 1790.